



# State Geography

[www.stategeography.abc-clio.com](http://www.stategeography.abc-clio.com)

## Quick Tips

Whether focusing on an individual state or on the nation as a whole, ABC-CLIO Schools' *State Geography* database offers teachers, librarians, and students an unbeatable combination of authoritative research sources, standards-aligned lessons and activities, and engaging current events features—all your state geography needs in one place.

This outstanding resource offers multiple ways to search an exhaustive collection of reference and curriculum entries through a U.S. map, subject, reference category, state profile, or text search while individual summaries of each state provide a practical introduction allowing you to dig deeper through enrichment lessons and activities.

## Overview of State Geography



On the homepage you'll find special features, including "U.S. News" and "Feature Story" articles that provide you with detailed information on a particular topic in state geography.

In the vertical toolbar on the left-hand side you'll see links to Topic Explorations and Advanced Search, along with tools including Ask the Cybrarian—a special feature that allows you to submit a question to an ABC-CLIO Schools editor—and research lists. If your teacher has created a list of resources for you to review, this is where you'll find them.

## Using Site Search

You'll also find the following search options:

- Site Search is the best for quick searches on one or two keywords
- Advanced Search narrows your search down to a specific time period or category
- Subject Search allows users to search the website's resources by a set of preselected keywords
- U.S. Map search allows users to navigate through the website's reference content by state



Located at the top left of every screen, Site Search offers a quick text search of all content areas of the database.

Searches look for all words entered.

- Use a comma to separate multiple search terms  
Example: abolition, Kansas
- Use "or" to find either word  
Example: Florida or Maine
- Use "-" to exclude a word  
Example: Washington, - D.C.
- For an exact phrase, enclose in quotation marks  
Example: "town meeting"

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# Using Advanced Search

- Get instant access to thousands of reference resources by choosing one or a combination of criteria, then clicking on the Search button
- To narrow a search, select a specific topic or subtopic from the list on the right
- Enter any relevant key words into the text box, following the same guidelines as when using a basic search
- To further narrow a search by type of resource, select a category (or categories) from the Reference list (in blue)
- The categories include biographies, audio clips, overview essays, and primary source documents
- The red Additional Resource list offers an archive of topic explorations as well as the feature stories found on the home page



## Search Results

- Whether you use a basic, advanced, or subject search, your results will be returned in the same format
- All search results will be sorted into categories. Each category provides different resources for use in your research
- For example, when using the keyword Supreme Court:
  - If you want to learn about current news stories involving the Court, you should choose the News category
  - If you are interested in a particular ruling, you should choose the Court Cases category
  - Additional resources, including topic explorations and feature articles can be found in the shaded boxes at the bottom of the page

## Using U.S. Map Search

- Clicking on a state's name brings up that state's profile (including all reference material related to that particular state, organized by category)
- The U.S. Map includes a link to the Website's National Perspective section which can provide you with an overview of important national issues



## Using Subject Search



- The Subject Search allows users to search the website's biographies, documents, news, and organizations by a set of preselected subject keywords (e.g., human rights, economic policy, famine)
- As in Advanced Search, the user can also search by state and category, or a combination of these elements
- Choose one subject and/or one state from each list, then hit search